

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

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### WILDLAND FIRE OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

#### Low Complexity

#### OPM Standard Requirements - GS-455/462 Technician Series

One year of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower grade level. Graduate education may be substituted for specialized experience only when it is directly related to the work of the position. Further information can be obtained from OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual, specifically, OPM's Group Coverage Qualification Standard for Technical and Medical Support Positions and the Individual occupational requirements for either the 455 or 462 series. OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual is posted at <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/>

#### Recommended minimum grade level GS-7

##### Specialized Experience -

Applicants must have a minimum of one year of creditable specialized wildland fire management experience equivalent to the next lower grade level.

Specialized experience is that experience which has provided the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to successfully function in the wildland fire management position applied for. Possession of the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities can be evidenced by:

- participating in implementing prescribed fire or fire use plans to ensure resource objectives can be met from a fire management standpoint.
- developing initial attack incident management strategies and tactics to meet the stated resource objectives.

#### NWCG Incident Management Qualifications - Currency Required

**Command:** Incident Commander, Type 4 (ICT4)  
**AND**  
**Operations:** Single Resource Boss (SRB)-crew, engine  
**AND**  
**Prescribed Fire:** Firing Boss, Single Resource (FIRB)

#### Additional required training as presented in the following courses, or agency equivalent:

- None



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### WILDLAND FIRE OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

#### Moderate Complexity

This position can be established at either the professional or technical level, depending upon the competency of the position which in turn will determine whether professional or technical knowledge is required. This, in turn, depends upon the structure which the position is established. If the position is established at the technical level, any professional duties would be handled by a separate, usually higher graded, professional position.

#### OPM Standard Requirements - GS-455/462 Technician Series

One year of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower grade level. Graduate education may be substituted for specialized experience only when it is directly related to the work of the position. Further information can be obtained from OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual, specifically, OPM's Group Coverage Qualification Standard for Technical and Medical Support Positions and the Individual occupational requirements for either the 455 or 462 series. OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual is posted at <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/>

#### OPM Standard Requirements - GS-401 Professional Series

Bachelor's degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, or a related discipline appropriate to the position being filled; OR a combination of education and experience as defined in the Supplemental Qualification Standard for the GS-0401 Fire Management Specialist. Additional information can be obtained from OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual, Group Coverage Qualification Standard for Professional and Scientific Positions and the Individual occupational requirements for the 401 series. The Supplemental Qualification Standard for the GS-0401 Fire Management Specialist and assistance in interpreting the standard are posted at [http://www.nifc.gov/training\\_qual/IFPM/ifpm.htm](http://www.nifc.gov/training_qual/IFPM/ifpm.htm) OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual is posted at <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/>

#### Recommended minimum grade level GS-9

##### Specialized Experience -

Applicants must have a minimum of one year of creditable specialized wildland fire management experience equivalent to the next lower grade level.

Specialized experience is that experience which has provided the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to successfully function in the wildland fire management position applied for. Possession of the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities can be evidenced by:

1. Experience that demonstrated understanding of fire effects on cultural and natural resources. The assignments must have shown participation in activities such as:
  - developing fire management plans to ensure plan objectives can be met from a fire management standpoint.
  - conducting field inspections before and/or after prescribed fires or wildland fires to determine if objectives have been met.
2. Prescribed fire/fuels management - experience in activities such as:
  - inventory methods and procedures
  - fuel treatment methods and programming
  - evaluating prescribed fire plans or fire management plans to ensure containment is possible and identify contingencies if containment is not obtained.
3. Fire management operations - analyzing and applying fire management strategies, plus experience in at least four of the following activities:
  - mobilization and dispatch coordination
  - fire prevention
  - training
  - logistics
  - equipment development and deployment
  - fire communication systems
  - suppression and preparedness

**NWCG Incident Management Qualifications - Currency Required**

**Command:** Incident Commander, Type 3 (ICT3)

**AND**

**Operations:** Task Force Leader (TFLD)

**AND**

**Prescribed Fire:** Prescribed Fire Burn Boss, Type 2 (RXB2)

**Additional required training as presented in the following courses, or agency equivalent:**

- None

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

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### WILDLAND FIRE OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

#### High Complexity

#### OPM Standard Requirements - GS-401

Bachelor's degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, or a related discipline appropriate to the position being filled; OR a combination of education and experience as defined in the Supplemental Qualification Standard for the GS-0401 Fire Management Specialist. Additional information can be obtained from OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual, Group Coverage Qualification Standard for Professional and Scientific Positions and the Individual occupational requirements for the 401 series. The Supplemental Qualification Standard for the GS-0401 Fire Management Specialist and assistance in interpreting the standard are posted at [http://www.nifc.gov/training\\_quals/IFPM/ifpm.htm](http://www.nifc.gov/training_quals/IFPM/ifpm.htm) OPM's Qualification Standards Operating Manual is posted at <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/>

#### Recommended minimum grade level GS-11

#### Specialized Experience -

Applicants must have a minimum of one year of creditable specialized wildland fire management experience equivalent to the next lower grade level.

Specialized experience is that experience which has provided the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to successfully function in the wildland fire management position applied for. Possession of the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities can be evidenced by:

- reviewing and evaluating fire management plans for ecological soundness and technical adequacy.
- conducting field inspections before and after prescribed or wildland fires to determine if objectives were achieved and/or evaluate the effectiveness of actions taken.
- developing analyses on the ecological role of fire and its use and/or exclusion, and smoke management.

In addition to fire program management, appropriate experience must have included either prescribed fire/fuels

management - OR - fire management operations as described below:

Prescribed fire/fuels management - experience in a broad range of activities such as:

- inventory methods and procedures
- fuel treatment methods and programming
- land use planning and environmental coordination
- evaluating prescribed burn plans or fire management plans to ensure containment is possible and identify contingencies if containment is not obtained.

Fire management operations - analyzing and applying fire management strategies, plus experience in at least five of the following activities:

- mobilization and dispatch coordination
- fire prevention and education
- training
- logistics
- equipment development and deployment
- fire communication systems
- suppression and preparedness
- aviation

**NWCG Incident Management Qualifications - Currency Required**

**Command:** Incident Commander, Type 3 (ICT3)

**AND**

**Operations:** Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS)

**AND**

**Prescribed Fire:** Prescribed Fire Burn Boss, Type 2 (RXB2)

**Additional required training as presented in the following courses, or agency equivalent:**

- None